

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on September 24, 1979 with Chairman, Thomas E. Colgan presiding.

As required by Senate Bill No. 256 the following is a list of the attenders at this meeting:

Virginia E. Shaw	Rae F. Gerstine	Mary Morley
Alfred Bratten	Thomas E. Colgan	Shaul Gladstone
Tom Stapleford	Bill Morley	Ruth Shaw
Eugene Shaw	Terry Ann Colgan	Lee Starr
Mamie Woolery	Virginia Mann	James Mann
Frank Heymann	Norman Spector N. V.	Andrew Foote
Sherry Custer N.V.	Pat Renzetti	B.A. Passanante
Lily Herzog	Frank Herzog	Mabel Freeman
Bertha W. Brooks	Janice Keppler N.V.	Cy Liberman
Carolyn Liberman	Russ McKinney	Ethel G. Monfort
Harold Monfort	Linda Scott	Betty Tonnesen
Woodrow Vandever	Frank Akutowicz	Marie Louise Bischoff N. V.
Vicki Scott	Jim Badner	Michael K. Curtis
Elizabeth Varley	Aaron Hamburger	Sarah Hamburger
Newton Scott	Alton Dahl	Beverly Barnett
Allen Lavoie N. V.	Thomas Snyder	David Richardson
Dora Johnson	William Press	A. Barnes King
Donald Holcomb N.V.	Ruth Holcomb N.V.	A. Grubb N. V.
George Ward N. V.	John W. Colgan	Beatrice Phillips
John Grimaldi	Billy Ward N. V.	Wendee R. Wietz N. V.
James Gulley	Yvonne King	Tony Colgan
Beverly Gulley	Yvonne King	

A correction was made to the minutes of the June 25 to read "Aaron Hamburger and Elizabeth Varley proposed a rate such that the income from land rent would be sufficient to meet village expenses.."

The minutes were approved as circulated.

Cy Liberman reported that Sherry Custer has been hired to assist Rae Gerstine in her duties as Trustees' Secretary. The financial budget was circulated. The Trustees were asked what they considered a safe and reasonable reserve to be held and the majority opinion was about \$85,000, which is the amount due in taxes presently. The reserve is considerable below that amount now. The reserve is invested in savings, treasury bills, etc and brings in an interest of about \$6,200. per year. The report was accepted and copy is on file.

Community Planning report was made by Cy Liberman: The Village was informed that the County is considering a new zoning for the Odd Fellows Building at Marsh and Grubbs Road. This will be C-1-H zoning. The H zoning is a new zoning for historic buildings.

The Department of Transportation is planning to hold public meetings concerning the proposed reconstruction of Naamans Road. Markers have been put on trees in the Memorial Gardens listing their names.

Two volunteers are constructing a good looking sign to mark entrance to Arden at Marsh and Millers Road.

The committee has been asked to consider the impact of the new vocational school to be constructed at Naamans and Marsh Roads near the fire house.

Nancy Hajar has resigned from the Community Planning Committee and a new member will be nominated under New Business.

The report was accepted unanimously.

Registration Committee report was given by Virginia Shaw:

There are 405 eligible voters.

The Committee has completed the purchase of a print of Arden, Experimental Village, accompanied by the 203 rolls of film and 69 magnetic tapes from which it was assembled, as directed by the June Town Assembly. These will give the town an invaluable record of local oral and visual history as the years pass. The completed motion picture print was placed for safekeeping in the vault of the Historical Society of Delaware in Wilmington. The film rolls, in need of cleaning were taken to the Hall of Records in Dover for this service which will cost about \$70.00. After cleaning, the tapes will be placed in Hall of Record vaults in Dover reserved for transferred records of municipalities for storage under proper conditions. They are under the jurisdiction of the town and we can have them delivered to us with reasonable advance notice. Anyone wanting to use them should contact the Registration Committee which will handle contacts with the storing agencies. The Registration Committee will submit proposed regulations for use of the material at a future meeting.

The magnetic tapes acquired in the transaction with Arden Films are at the present time in the possession of the 80th Birthday Committee.

Occasionally not enough current members of the Registration Committee have been present to count votes efficiently. This emergency is customarily met by the Chairman or ranking member appointing the needed additional tellers from among past Registration Committee members who may be available. We ask that this practice be recognized as the correct procedure. The report was accepted unanimously.

The Buzz Ware Village Center Committee report was presented by Elizabeth Varley. They have recently completed major repairs on a section of the roof over Room 3 and the hall. A new section was built over an improperly constructed flat roof. There were also repairs made in Room 3. The committee is purchasing a portable blackboard and plans to have new curtains made for the alcove on the stage. We are also going to have a new sign which explains the history of the Arden Quilt with the key and award all mounted in one frame.

The fall session of Progress and Poverty will start tomorrow, 25th of September. The course is open to all residents of Arden.

The Committee is still very interested in your ideas for programs at the Center. Please contact the Committee. The report was accepted unanimously.

The Civic Committee report was presented by Joan Colgan for Reese Davis:

Through the past summer we continued to have trash collection problems. In an effort to force a meeting with the owner of Hope's Suburban Garbage, we withheld payment for June service due July 10th. We have subsequently withheld checks due August 10 and September 10. It appears that Hope's have reorganized operations and yesterday Gail Rinehart and Reese Davis met with the new manager, Glenn Haley. Specific improvement in service and truck maintenance were outlined. Mr. Haley was told Hope's had about 1 1/2 months to completely reverse its bad image or the Civic Committee would not even consider his bid for 1980 service. The three months' withheld payments were then released.

Approximately 15 new street signs were installed during the summer. Also, we had installed a new heavy duty sign board on the Green at the corner of Millers and Cherry roads.

We have completed all the planned road work for the year except for a top surfacing of Mill Lane to be done this fall. We should point out that this year as well as the past several years the town has received about \$2,800 in Revenue Sharing Funds from the federal government. These funds have been used exclusively for road maintenance work.

We are presently preparing our annual contract for snow removal and sanding.

The meeting requested that signs be put on both sides of the post for roads coming out into Harvey Road.

The report was approved unanimously.

#### Safety Committee report by Thomas Stapleford:

A meeting of the Safety Committee and Advisory Committee was held on July 5 at which time it was decided not to hire a security officer and a letter was sent to all residents advising them of this decision. On August 9 a rock concert was held on the Paul Taylor property that overflowed onto the Sherwood Green. There was drinking on the green and exceptionally loud noise so that many residents wrote requesting that some action be taken. A meeting was held on August 18 at which time concerns about safety problems were outlined: 1. Series of concerns of misuse of Sherwood Greens by the groups meeting at P. Taylors with excessive noise. 2 Misuse of all the greens by groups parking on the greens and littering with beers cans, etc. 3. Speeding and noise from car radios.

Residents that were disturbed were asked to write letters concerning this and a warrent was sworn out to be handled by the Magistrate at Court 10.

On September 22 the committee met and reported that they can get a professional security agency to provide a uniformed security officer and patrol car to enforce our ordinances. It would cost \$5000. from October to March, 1980 and \$10,000 from March 25, 1980 to March 24, 1981. Other things that could be done would be extend the Town Watch program. A motion will be made under new business to get these items on the Budget. The report was accepted unanimously.

#### Arden Playground Committee by Beverly Barnett:

1. Major accomplishment this quarter was the excavation of a trench under the swings at the BWVC, and the filling of the trench with stones for drainage and RightDress to cushion falls. Cost was \$759.
2. Wilmington Montessori has installed 3 painted wooden cubes at the BWVC. They have been instructed in pertinent national safety standard.

Vandalism: WMA deck house slide was torn down on July 9. The committee advised against reinstalling it in its present location.

Inspection and maintenance. WMA deck house-erected guard rail where slide had been torn off.

Swings- install all new chains in tot lot, one new seat.

Replaced basketball netting

Wired together top and bottom netting on Green baseball backstop.

Painted yellow monkey bars, giraffe.

Request for funds for 1980-81 has been increased by \$400. to \$1,600 on the Budget.

Budget Committee report was circulated. Note 2 was amended by striking out other items shall be revised as necessary to ensure that total expenditures do not not exceed receipts.

The budget will be presented again under new business to work out any other changes needed.

No report from the 80th Birthday Committee. Sally Hamburger requested more interviewers to help with the Oral History Committee.

Michael Curtis made the following motion: Seconded by Cy Liberman: He moved that we add 10% to current assessment right across the board. This would increase the total by about \$11,000.

Report of Assessors was:

First 6,500 square feet  
Above 6,500 square feet

36.90 per 1000 sq.f  
22.60 per 1000 sq.Ft

Motion to increase by 10%

First 6,500 square feet  
Above 6,500 square feet

40.59 per 1000 sq.ft  
24.86 per 1000 sq.ft

Cy Liberman pointed out that the town cannot go on for long cutting into the surplus. Some people felt that we could ~~cut down on road expenses~~. Some felt that the standard of living we have set for ourselves is too high. Action was called for on the motion to send to referendum the Assessors assesment and the proposed increase of 10% across the board. The motion carried with 30 ayes and 7 nays.

Richard Florschutz was nominated to serve out Nancy Hajar's term on the Community Planning Committee and he was elected unanimously.

The following were nominated to serve on the Board of Assessors. They will be elected by proportional representation by referendum:

Harold Monfort, Eugene Shaw, William Press, Frank Herzog, John Grimaldi, Bert Passanante, David Richardson, Warren Davis, Cy Liberman, Aaron Hamburger, Elizabeth Varley, Thomas Stapleford, Frank Heymann, Alton Dahl.

Safety Committee requested that they be authorized to entered into a contract with a professional security agency to provide a uniformed security office from October 1, 1979 to March 24, 1980 at a cost of \$5,000. It was pointed out that this meeting could not vote on the expenditure without approval of the residents of Arden.

Thomas Stapleford then presented the following motion:

The Safety Committee be authorized to enter into a contract with a professional security agency to provide a uniformed security officer and patrol car to enforce town ordinances. A total expenditure of not more than \$10,000 between March 25, 1980 and March 24, 1981 is authorized. Directions and scheduling of this service will be the responsibility of the Safety Committee. The Budget for 1980-81 will be amended by adding a line item to pay to pay for this expenditure of \$10,000. The motion passed by 34 ayes and 7 nays.

A motion was made that \$5,000 be taken out of surplus to pay for contract with a professional security agency to provide a uniformed security officer and patrol car from October, 1979 to March 24, 1980. Motion passed with 28 ayes and 10 nays.

It was pointed out that the money cannot be spent without the approval of the majority of the voting residents of Arden. The Trustees were asked to get legal counsel to find out if the money could be spent.

There had been a court case concerning expenditures of money without the consent of the majority of residents as provided in the Deed of Trust and the Chancellor's decision was that the money could not be spent.

B. Passanante made a motion that the Trustees go to their lawyer for an opinion if this case could be handled quickly and then send it to referendum if necessary to pay for the security.

An amendment was made ~~that~~ to place the question of expenditure of \$5,000 for payment of security on referendum to be mailed with the present referendum. The amendment passed 33 ayes and 2 nays.

The original motion passed 28 ayes 0 nays. 2 abstaining.

The Budget for March 25, 1980 to March 24, 1981 was amended.

Income for year is \$120,300, County taxes \$22,757, School Taxes 70,743, Administrative Expenses \$6,000 totalling \$99,500. leaving \$20,800 for budgeting. The amount for Playground Committee was raised from 1,200. to 1,600. Item for Security Service amounting to \$10,000 added. The total Budgeted Expenses came to 56,655 making a deficit budget of \$35,855.

Note 2 was amended to read: Budget Committee shall review actual and anticipated receipts and expenditures prior to each Town Assembly. If any single expenditure item or the total of all such items is expected to deviate by \$1,000 from the budget because of an unanticipated emergency expenditure or lower income, a revised budget showing new and old figures shall be submitted in writing to the Town Assembly for approval by a two-thirds vote at a regular or special meeting.

The amended budget was approved unanimously to be sent to referendum.

Thomas Colgan presented a Certificate of Merit to Virginia Shaw for her invaluable aid in having Arden made an historic village and her continued advice on methods of keeping our records preserved in Dover and with the Historical Society of Delaware.

Mr. Colgan also presented a Certificate of Merit to Michael Curtis for his interest in preserving the philosophy of Single Tax and teaching so many classes in Arden for the Henry George School.

Michael Curtis present a volume of Henry George's "Progress and Poverty" to the Village of Arden in honor of Henry George's 100th birthday.

Mr. Colgan accepted the volume for the village and those present at the meeting expressed their appreciation.

A motion was made that the Town Assembly expresses its condolences to the Brachman family at the passing of Peter Brachman.

The meeting on motion adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Morley*  
Mary Morley, Secretary